

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 FEA-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-03 DODE-00 SS-15

AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /103 W

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R 041453Z NOV 75

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6633

INFO USERDA GERMANTOWN

AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IAEA VIENNA 9300

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: AORG, IAEA, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN SEAT ON IAEA BOARD

REF: STATE 257431

1. ACCORDING TO UK RESREP (SLATER) PROCEDURE WHICH HAS BEEN GENERALLY AGREED UPON AMONG WE MEMBERS OF AGENCY IS TO DRAW UP A SET OF CRITERIA FOR USE IN DETERMINING MOST ADVANCED STATES AMONG ALL WE MEMBERS. THERE IS NO RPT NO PRESENT INTENTION BY WE GROUP OF ATTEMPTING TO HAVE SUCH CRITERIA AS MAY BE DEVELOPED APPLIED TO ENTIRE IAEA MEMBERSHIP.

2. CLEARLY DEVISED AS ATTEMPT TO ACCOMMODATE SWEDISH AND SPANISH COMPLAINTS, PLAN IS RATHER NEBULOUS AT PRESENT. AGREEMENT HAS NOT YET BEEN REACHED ON WHICH WE STATES, IN ADDITION TO GROUP CO-CHAIRMEN FRANCE AND UK, SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN DRAFTING OF CRITERIA. SECOND PHASE, I.E. ACCEPTANCE OF THEM BY ALL WE STATES MAY PRESENT EVEN MORE PROBLEMS.

3. DISCUSSIONS AT JUNE BOARD (SEE IAEA VIENNA 5138)

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MADE IT CLEAR THAT A NUMBER OF BOARD MEMBERS, INCLUD-

ING USSR, INDIA AND JAPAN, OBJECTED STRONGLY TO ESTABLISHMENT OF ANY OBJECTIVE CRITERIA FOR USE BY BOARD IN DESIGNATING ALL THOSE BOARD MEMBERS IN "MOST ADVANCED" CATEGORY. FYI: OPPOSITION WAS BASED ON A NUMBER OF FACTORS INCLUDING THE IMPLICIT ASSUMPTION, WIDELY HELD, THAT SHOULD THE PRC EVER JOIN THE AGENCY IT WOULD BE ENTITLED AUTOMATICALLY TO A BOARD SEAT AS A "MOST ADVANCED" MEMBER. WHILE TRADITIONAL PRACTICES OF BOARD DESIGNATION COULD PERMIT SUCH RESULT, ANY SET OF CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION PRESUMABLY WOULD BE BASED ON ADVANCEMENT IN PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY WHICH WOULD CLEARLY RAISE SERIOUS QUESTIONS ABOUT PRC ELIGIBILITY. END FYI.

4. ON BASIS OF FOREGOING, MISSION RECOMMENDS WE NOT SUPPORT ITALIAN VIEW THAT CRITERIA SHOULD BE APPLIED WORLDWIDE, FOR THAT COURSE OF ACTION WILL RECEIVE VERY HEAVY OPPOSITION IN BOARD. THE BEST COURSE TO FOLLOW FOR THE PRESENT IS TO CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE WE GROUP IN ITS EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THEIR OWN SPECIFIC PROBLEM. LABOWITZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975IAEAV09300
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750383-0289
From: IAEA VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751177/aaaacrbx.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 257431
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <02 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITALIAN SEAT ON IAEA BOARD
TAGS: AORG, IT, IAEA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006